

Accounting, Security Faulted

Missing Uranium, Plutonium Cited in Report to Congress

By David Burnham

WASHINGTON, May 4 (NYT).—The General Accounting Office told Congress this week that commercial nuclear facilities in the United States were not able to account for thousands of pounds of highly enriched uranium and plutonium.

In addition to faulting the accounting procedures of the private companies, the GAO said its investigation of a sampling of three facilities had found shortcomings in the security systems intended to prevent terrorists from seizing highly dangerous materials.

In a related development, The New York Times has obtained a government report summarizing an incident in 1968 when a nuclear facility in Apollo, Pa., was unable to account for 381.6 pounds of highly enriched uranium, enough to serve as the atomic material for at least 10 bombs.

No FBI Inquiry

Although independent investigations by the Atomic Energy Commission and the GAO were unable to discover precisely what happened to the uranium, the summary of the case shows that, on Feb. 23, 1966, the Federal Bureau of Investigation advised that it would not make its own investigation since there was no evidence that the uranium had been stolen.

Rumors that the Apollo facility may have been the target of international thieves have circulated in the nuclear community for many years, but government officials insist there was no evidence of what is known in the industry as "a diversion."

Those rumors were revived last week when a formerly high-ranking U.S. intelligence official said he had seen reports several years ago that Israel had obtained some quantities of uranium in the United States by "surreptitious and illegal means."

Mystery Ship

His comment was contained in a dispatch concerning a ship carrying 200 tons of uranium ore that disappeared from the high seas in November, 1968, and that some intelligence officials in Europe and the United States believe ended up in Israel. The Israeli government has denied that it obtained the missing uranium ore being shipped from Antwerp, via Amsterdam, to Genoa.

In Brussels on Monday, the European Economic Community officially confirmed reports that the uranium had mysteriously disappeared.

The GAO, in an unclassified version of a report on the security of commercial nuclear fuel facilities, said that, since such facilities had begun operating in 1955, "thousands of kilograms of special nuclear materials"—highly enriched uranium and plutonium—cannot be accounted for. There are 22 pounds in a kilogram. Experts estimate that only 36 pounds of enriched uranium or 13 pounds of plutonium are required to make a nuclear weapon.

Cracking the System

Government and industry officials contend that all or virtually all of the special nuclear material is missing only in the sense that it has become imbedded in processing machinery or lost in the relatively crude statistical methods used to keep track of it.

The GAO said that, "although these quantities do not neces-

sarily denote lost or stolen material, the fact that it is missing greatly detracts from the integrity of the safeguards system."

The GAO report, made public after hearing by the House Commerce subcommittee on energy and power, discussed a recent situation in which a "significant amount of plutonium had gone unaccounted for for about 1 1/2 months."

Another Probe Cited

"Although physical security procedures such as access and exit controls helped assure that the material was not removed from the plant, the licensee and the commission could not be certain whether the loss was due to clerical error, to measurement inaccuracies or actual theft," the GAO reported.

Monday's report parallels a GAO investigation completed last August concluding that government nuclear facilities—like the commercial ones—were also unable to account for thousands of pounds of uranium and plutonium.

The incident involving the nuclear facility in Apollo was first noted on April 30, 1965, when an inventory discovered a shortage of more than 100 pounds of highly enriched uranium used for naval reactors. A second investigation in early the following November, however, showed that almost 400 pounds of the uranium could not be accounted for since the plant began operating in 1957.

Right Hits Suarez Decision To Run as Centrist in June

MADRID, May 4 (UPI).—Conservatives, stung by the announcement that Spanish Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez is throwing his weight to the middle-of-the-road parties in the June 15 general elections, accused him today of disloyalty to the Franco regime and of refusing to speak clearly on the problems facing Spain.

Manuel Fraga Iribarne, a leader of the rightist Popular Alliance, challenged the Premier to a televised debate so that Spain's 22 million voters "can form their own opinion" on what he called Mr. Suarez's "confused" views.

His challenge followed by a few hours Mr. Suarez's announcement in a televised speech that he had decided to end his political neutrality and run for a seat in the lower house of the new parliament as an independent candidate aligned with a new election front of 15 center parties.

The candidacy of the Premier dealt a blow to the hopes of Mr. Fraga's Popular Alliance to emerge as the most powerful parliamentary bloc from Spain's first free elections in 41 years.

Many politicians agreed that it was a decisive move, likely to swing the elections in favor of the center parties.

Mr. Fraga, 53, an information minister under the late dictator Francisco Franco, charged that Mr. Suarez's speech last night was "unjust and ungrateful" for the [Franco] past, confused and insufficient in regard to the present and totally obscure in regard to the future.

But, at the same time, the Popular Alliance announced that it was dropping a plan to chal-



Jack Wallcroft, a member of the staff at No. 10 Downing Street, prepares for summit.

Europe Awaits Carter With Mixed Feelings

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attend a four-power "Berlin" meeting with leaders of Britain, France and West Germany, before flying on to Geneva for an afternoon meeting with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad. He returns to London Monday night and will attend the opening session of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Tuesday.

It will be the President's first trip abroad since his election and probably his only trip abroad during the year.

He made an attempt to reach West European public opinion this week through television and newspaper interviews in which he stressed his "understanding commitment" to human rights, which he said he would maintain "until the last day I am in office."

With a show of modesty in the European television interviews, he pointed out that the leaders of France, Britain, West Germany and Japan all were former finance ministers. "I am not an expert on finance," he said. "I expect to learn a lot from them."

Economic Shadows

There are several shadows over this meeting, and one of them is economic. The Carter administration made an attempt in February to persuade West Germany to relax its economy, and was rebuffed by Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. The U.S. position has now swung around closer to Bonn's position, but this in turn has distressed leaders of the weaker European economies, France, Britain and Italy.

A second shadow is the wide divergence in nuclear policies. The differences between Washington and Bonn over exports of nuclear technology are well known, but France and Britain two nations heavily committed to the development of reprocessing and fast reactor (breeder) technology, have also expressed concern over the Carter policy.

In his interview with four European newspapers, La Stampa, Le Monde, Die Zeit and The Times, Mr. Carter attempted to clarify his approach to Eurocommunist, following criticism from both France and Italy over U.S. contacts with Communists.

"European citizens are perfectly capable of making their own decisions," said the President. "We can encourage that process, not by interfering in electoral procedures within countries themselves, but making the system work ourselves."

Still other problems must be overcome if this meeting is to avoid the disappointment of the last economic summit meeting, 11 months ago in Puerto Rico. That meeting, which lasted only 24 hours, was regarded by all delegations as having accomplished nothing. The first economic summit meeting was held in November, 1975, in France, and was more successful.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing has dramatized some of the internal divisions of the European nations by his objections to the participation of Roy Jenkins, president of the European Commission, at some of the summit sessions, and by his decision not to stay over for the opening NATO meeting Tuesday.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing will protest the Jenkins presence at the official dinner Friday night by not arriving until Saturday. As of now, Mr. Jenkins, and through him all the small nations of the European Economic Community represented on the commission.

Italy Communist Gets Visa to U.S.

WASHINGTON, May 4 (AP).—The U.S. government is authorizing a visa for a leading Italian Communist who plans to make speeches to various foreign policy groups in the United States. The decision to approve a visa for Carlo Santoro, a regional representative of the Communist party, was made on a high level and marks a clean break from the policy on foreign Communist leaders followed by former administrations who often waived legal provisions that bar Communists from visiting this country, but only on condition that they would not make speeches.

Asked if the decision denoted a new attitude, a State Department official said: "Santoro is coming to the United States in a personal capacity as an academic, and granting a visa to him is consistent with past practice."

But a spokesman for the Council on Foreign Relations disputed this, saying: "This was a test case."

19 More Vietnamese Flee to Japan by Sea

TOKYO, May 4 (UPI).—A Liberian tanker has docked in Tokyo carrying 19 more refugees who fled Vietnam in a small boat and were picked up at sea, the Ministry of Justice disclosed today.

They raised to 187 the number of escapees from Vietnam to arrive in Japan since April 6. All have fled the country in fishing boats. Another 79 are due May 13 when the Japanese freighter Kusan Maru docks at the port of Ishinomaki in northern Japan.

Farming Drastically Limited

Rhodesian Blacks Suffering in War Zone

By Jack Foisie

KEEP 21, Rhodesia, May 4.—The black boy lay under a blanket, shaking and whimpering. Eight years old but weighing no more than a healthy 2-year-old, the boy was brought to the hospital near death from malnutrition, a casualty of Rhodesia's "protected village" program that guards rural blacks from guerrillas but prevents them from raising enough food to survive above a starvation level. Now being fed skim milk, sugar and protein-rich unfermented local beer, the boy will survive, Dr. Jim Watt said. "But he undoubtedly will be retarded physically and mentally," the doctor added.

Dr. Watt is one of two Salvation Army doctors who operate the 150-bed Howard Hospital next to Keep 21, a protected village of 2,500 blacks. From guerrilla-threatened areas, the blacks have been gathered to live in a closely confined life under the protection and discipline of Rhodesia's white-minority government. In Salisbury, 51 miles south, authorities estimate to say how many protected villages have been built in the insurgent areas.

216 Villages

There are known to be 21 in the Chiwebe Tribal Trust Territory, a 300-square-mile reservation served by Howard Hospital. And there are believed to be 195 throughout the northern one-third of Rhodesia, which is populated by an estimated 250,000 blacks.

The program is being expanded into other regions where black nationalist guerrillas are making headway. The strategy of isolating the "general population" is as controversial in Rhodesia as it was in Vietnam, where such settlements were called strategic hamlets.

The first protected villages in Rhodesia were built in 1974. Keep 21 was one of them.

In Southeast Asia, the U.S. Command specified certain jungle areas outside the hamlets as Viet Cong-infested, designated them free-fire zones and allowed U.S. forces to "shoot anything that moves" wearing black pajamas. Unfortunately, peasants wore the same clothes as the Viet Cong guerrillas. The program backfired.

Living Patterns

Dr. Watt has been at Howard Hospital for six years. In his practice throughout Chiwebe Territory, before and since the protected villages were built, he has observed changes in traditional African life caused by enforced life in the villages.

"There would have been an increase in malnutrition even if there weren't protected villages," he said. "The war has limited farm production."

But the government's decision to break up the pattern of tribal living—in which families were scattered and their assigned plots of farmland were near their homes—has further increased the difficulty of raising food. Even in good times, food production often was at subsistence level in the tribal areas.

"In our area, the problem is the distance the people must walk to their fields now that they are confined at night to the PTBs (protected villages)," Dr. Watt explained.

Work Time Reduced

"Some people must take maybe two hours to get to their fields. Their time to work is reduced, and for people on the border of malnutrition their strength is reduced."

Their absence from the fields at night also leaves the crops exposed to destructive forces. "Cattle are normally fenced in," Dr. Watt said, "but all it takes is a cow on the loose, or a band of baboons, and a tremendous amount of crop damage is done. Poor people with small landholdings have had all their crops destroyed in one night."

Nor does the government provide food for protected villages, even during emergencies. "The uncompromising attitude is illustrated by a warning to rural blacks in the district of Chipinga, in southeast Rhodesia, where protected villages are planned. Signed by D.W. Duplooy, district commissioner, and dated April 4, the leaflet read in part: 'I remind you that even in these difficult times you will have to pay your tax, (livestock) dip fees, school fees, bus fares, clinic fees, etc. Many of you will have to buy food, clothing and blankets for the winter.'"

"Understand the position very clearly. The government will not feed you in the protected villages. Your problems have been recognized by the government, and to help you earn cash before the cold winter months when there is no work, you are informed that all further movement to protected villages in your areas has been stopped to allow you time to go to work... I am trying to help you to help yourselves."

Endemic Diseases

The government provides the villages with rudimentary sanitation, a water supply and a perimeter chain-link fence, which is usually lighted and is often the only electric installation for miles around. Armed self-

defense units, with white officers, have orders to shoot without challenge anyone outside the compound at night. The villagers, leaving their round houses of mud walls and thatched roofs in the countryside, must build new houses in the crowded enclosure. Keep 21 is about a city block in area. Although officially considered sensitive institutions because they bring foreigners to a troubled area, Howard Hospital and its companion, Salisbury Hospital, are supported partly by Rhodesian government funds. The project is also supported by World Vision, a Canadian U.S. fund-raising church, but the list of nutritional used in the center would be popular in those countries. They include white ants caterpillars.

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Mondale Reportedly to Urge Vorster to Drop Apartheid

By Graham Hovey

WASHINGTON, May 4 (NYT).—Vice-President Mondale will emphasize at a meeting with Prime Minister John Vorster in Vienna May 19 the administration's conviction that South Africa must abandon apartheid, officials said yesterday.

The Vice-President's first goal, the officials said, would be to make certain that Mr. Vorster understands that he cannot "buy" U.S. silence about conditions in South Africa by helping to resolve the problems of South-West Africa and Rhodesia.

Harmony, Cooperation

Two high-level administration officials said in separate interviews that Mr. Mondale would stress the necessity for changes in South Africa as an imperative for bringing conditions of racial harmony and cooperation to the whole region.

Officials involved with the development of the administration's policy on southern Africa have been concerned recently with the elimination of two misperceptions they attribute to the South African government.

One is the notion that South Africa's cooperation in resolving the problems of Rhodesia and South-West Africa would be rewarded by an easing of pressures on Pretoria by the United States and its allies to carry out racial reforms in its own country. The other is the belief that

the President's decision to sign Mr. Mondale's speech would signal the demise of Mr. Young, the chief delegate to the United Nations, as a polemic tributor and a softer on apartheid.

Minimal Criticism

In the Ford administration, the Secretary of State Henry Kissinger had given priority to taming South Africa's criticism for actions in Rhodesia and South-West Africa. A made only minimal, pro-criticism of apartheid, approach has been through completely, officials said. As for Mr. Young, the noted with satisfaction yesterday's announcement that Mr. Mondale's "key" African policy would be to "open" in close coordination Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Mr. Young.

Although the two have never directly linked, on South African concerns South-West Africa, not officially disclosed, smooth way for Mr. Mondale to Mr. Vorster in Vienna. Under pressure of the States and four other nations, South Africa has recently decided to delay its granting independence to West Africa in defiance of United Nations.

Delay in Overseas Tax Ri Set by Congress Conferees

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standard deduction, will start June 1.

• Dropped a Senate provision allowing about \$3.5 million "heads of households" (chiefly divorced persons) to claim the new \$2,000 deduction. They will be treated as single taxpayers and will only get the \$2,000 standard deduction.

• Continued for a year, to the end of 1978, the "general" tax credit for all taxpayers of \$33 a person or 3 percent of the first \$9,000 of taxable income.

• Continued for a year the 10-percent "earned income credit" paid to families with children and with salaries of under \$4,000, and dropped a House provision to permit the credit for persons who get more than half their income from welfare.

• Continued for a year existing 1973 corporate cuts, which tax the first \$35,000 of corporate income at 20 percent, the next \$35,000 at 22 percent and everything above that at 48 percent. • Agreed to a one-year delay

on the abolition of sick deduction.

• Agreed to a tax when a home is used for day care services to the handicapped.

• Dropped a Senate granting a \$250 tax credit some caring for aged relatives in their homes.

West Bank Is Tense

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and some other village details.

The first to die was a 16-year-old, Dalal al-Hadi. Abu Basma, one of the 600 who were stoning a military truck carrying tanks.

Mayor Awad said the body was taken to a hospital and that his friends requested that he be able to bring the body to the village for a funeral, in accordance with ritual.

Permission Denied

The mayor said the stoning was denied until the body was taken to the Israeli military camp for the area. According to Awad, between 15 and 20 villagers then broke open the door and forcibly the body, which was Qabatiya.

The second clash occurred in a procession—widely reported to have involved several thousands—in a village where a body was taken and prepared for burial. An Israeli jeep road the main village road. A Palestinian was taking pictures and others aimed the vehicle was stoned on fire and that the trod off fire. But it was known for certain that came first, the gunfire stoning.

In any event, Fatima, a 55-year-old widow with grown children, was killed, and four others—men and two young slightly injured.

U.S. Doctor Is Fined By Rhodesia Off

SALISBURY, Rhodesia (UPI).—A U.S. missionary who had defied a government order to leave Rhodesia issued today after two detention orders and a month's stay in the country. "I'm elated," said 38 Dr. Selwyn Spray, origin La Grande, Ore. He is physician at a hospital United Church of Christ Selinda Mission.

Climber Dies in Nepal

KATMANDU, Nepal, May 4 (UPI).—The Foreign Ministry announced today that Andrew Russell, 24, of London, was killed in an avalanche while climbing a Himalayan peak in west Nepal.

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